

Application No.: 10/004088

Docket No.: SYCS-059

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 were presented for examination. Examiner objected to FIG. 2 under 37 CFR 1.84(o) due to lack of descriptive legends for the boxes. Examiner rejected claims 1 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,816,681 to Li et al. ("Li"). Examiner further rejected claims 1, 6, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Pub. 2003/0223747 A1 to Olier et al. ("Olier"). Claims 1, 3-4, 6-7, 10, and 12 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,219,162 B1 to Barnard et al. ("Barnard") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,943,151 to Grasso et al. ("Grasso"). Claims 2 and 15 are further rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Barnard and Grasso and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,570,683 B1 to Lu ("Lu"). Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Barnard and Grasso and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,532,087 to Ransford et al. ("Ransford"). Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Li in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,804,464 B2 to Yang ("Yang"). Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowability claims 13-14 and 16-17 if they are amended to address the objections identified by the Examiner.

Upon entry of this amendment, Applicant has amended FIG. 2 and claims 1 and 16. Applicant respectfully submits that the word "Node" has been added to each box in FIG. 2 to overcome the objection indicated by the Examiner. Applicant has taken Examiner's suggestion to rewrite claim 13 as claim 1 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. Applicant hereby cancels claim 13 without prejudice. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-12, and 14-17 are in condition for allowance.

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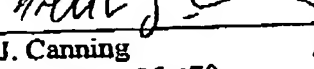
CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this statement. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. SYCS-059 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: January 3, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Kevin J. Canning
Registration No.: 35,470
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP
28 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02109
(617) 227-7400
(617) 742-4214 (Fax)
Attorney/Agent For Applicant

Attachments